Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 01 Feb 2023 until 23:59 on Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 31 Jan 2023 at 16:02

Confidence: High for mild, breezy and mostly cloudy conditions through the coming days with occasional rain. Confidence falls for timing of a cold front moving southeast across the UK on Saturday bringing more settled, slightly colder conditions

Headline for Wednesday 01 Feb 2023: Mostly cloudy with outbreaks of rain and drizzle. Westerly gales easing a little

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 01 Feb 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** Low Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)	Sleet	Sunny intervals	Light rain	Light rain	Drizzle	Drizzle
Precipitation probability							
30%	20%	70%	20%	70%	60%	50%	50%

Forecast for Wednesday 01 Feb 2023

Weather: A few clear spells overnight but generally cloudy with occasional rain, sleet and snow, the snow becoming confined to above about 750m by dawn. Then a mostly cloudy day, the best chance of any brighter spells expected across eastern fells through the morning, with outbreaks of mainly light rain and drizzle, with some sleet or wet snow on summits till mid-afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance in west but 25% across eastern fells

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above about 450-600m with, especially in west, patches below, the cloud in the east becoming more occasional above about 750m at times, especially in the morning. Away from cloud visibility good falling to several kilometres in rain and drizzle and perhaps a kilometre in summit snow.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 01 Feb 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	46/58 W	43/55 W	49/64 W	43/56 W	39/52 W	36/48 W	35/47 W	35/46 W	34/45 W
600	35/49 W	32/46 W	38/55 W	32/47 W	29/43 W	27/40 W	26/38 W	25/37 W	25/37 W
300	15/39 W	13/36 W	17/44 W	14/38 W	14/35 W	13/32 W	12/30 W	11/29 W	12/29 W
Valley	14/35 W	14/33 W	17/40 W	14/33 W	14/33 W	13/29 W	12/27 W	11/25 W	13/28 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-1/-11	-1/-10	-0/-10	1/-8	1/-7	2/-6	2/-6	2/-5	2/-5
600	1/-7	1/-6	2/-6	2/-5	3/-4	3/-4	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3
300	4/-1	4/-0	4/-0	5/0	5/0	5/1	5/2	6/2	6/2
Valley	6/2	6/2	6/2	7/3	7/3	7/4	7/4	7/4	7/4
Freezing Level*	700m	800m	900m	1000m	1000m	1100m	1200m	1300m	1300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Gusts around 70mph over ridges and summits through the morning.

Forecast for Thursday 02 Feb 2023

Weather: A mostly cloudy day with occasional, mainly light rain and drizzle. Best of any brighter spells likely across more eastern fells.

Maximum wind: Westerly or southwesterly 30-40mph, gusts around 60mph over ridges and summits, easing a little through the afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance in west but nearer 25% in east

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above about 600-750m lowering, especially in west, to 450m in precipitation, the cloud in the east becoming more occasional above about 750m at times. Away from cloud visibility good falling to several kilometres in rain and drizzle.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Around 6 or 7 Celsius at dawn rising to plus 10 or 11 Celsius by day
At 800m: Plus 3 or 4 Celsius
Freezing level: Above the summits

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 31 January 2023 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:10. Full report: The majority of the Lakeland fells up to, and including, summit level are now clear of snow. However, the fells are definitely not totally clear of snow. The remaining snow can be found above 750m in sheltered spots and hollows with the majority lying above 850m on east and north facing aspects. Despite the summit temperature at midday being only just below freezing (at minus 1 degree C) the snowpack was hard and icy making conditions treacherous for those venturing onto it without the necessary equipment. Much of the snow can be avoided, but there are exceptions such as the exits to both Striding and especially Swirral Edges where banks of steep, deep, and today, icy snow remain. Crampons and an ice axe remain essential to anyone tackling these routes as a slip here without the means to quickly stop it could have serious consequences. The summit plateau had patches of ice either where water had frozen or where snow has been compressed by walkers' boots. Cornices (snow overhangs) exist above many steep north and east facing aspects – such as along Helvellyn's summit plateau. There were signs of cracks in them so please keep well back from any such snow covered edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Given the strength of the westerly wind blowing in the direction of the steep drop and the fact that the snow was rock hard and icy it is wise to stay completely off the snow in these locations – unless wearing crampons. Despite the mild weather in the valleys, the summit temperature was below zero and the windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) well below (at minus 12 degrees C at midday), so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass are all essential to safely enjoy the fells. As previously mentioned, for those attempting, or traversing, steep and exposed routes above the snowline (such as the Helvellyn edges), crampons and ice axe remain essential. Goggles are strongly recommended to lessen the sting of any windblown hail especially as strong winds are currently forecast for Wednesday. Temperature: minus 1.1 C, Maximum wind speed 48.0 mph, Wind chill: minus 11.9 C, Average wind speed: 37.7 mph Issued at: 1602 on Tue 31 Jan 2023

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